

Dr. Tim Rühlig

Political scientist

Research fellow at The Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI)

Email: contact@timruhlig.eu

Twitter: @ruehlig

Research focus: EU-China relations, Chinese foreign policy, Chinese technology policy, technical standardization, Hong Kong affairs

Work

2019-	The Swedish Institute of International Affairs: Research Fellow
2019-	EU-COST Action: “China in Europe Research Network” (CHERN): Chairman CHERN Working Group II “High-technology and innovation”, Core Group Member, Swedish representative in the Management Committee Member
2018-2019	The Swedish Institute of International Affairs: Research Analyst
2018	European Think-tank Network on China (ETNC): coordinator (rotating position)
2018-	European Think-tank Network on China (ETNC): member
2013-2018	Goethe University of Frankfurt: Associate Research Fellow at the Cluster of Excellence “The formation of normative orders”, Chair on International Organizations (Prof. Christopher Daase)
2013	AVO Carbon: Quality management
2009-2011	Goethe University of Frankfurt: Student research assistant at the Chair of International Relations and theories of global orders (Prof. Deitelhoff)
2005-2006	Kibbutz Kvutzat Shiller, Rehovot/Israel: voluntary social year

Education

2013-2019	PhD International Relations: University of Frankfurt (“summa cum laude”)
2009-2012	M.A. International Studies/Peace and Conflict Research: University Frankfurt/Technical University of Darmstadt (very good, 1.0)
2006-2009	B.A. Political Science, Cultural Anthropology: University of Tübingen (very good, 1.2)
1992-2005	General schooling, University Entrance Examination: Waldorfschule Frankfurt (very good, 1.0)

Visiting Research Fellowships

2018	Visiting Research Fellow European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS), Brussels
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2016	Visiting Research Fellow China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), Beijing
2015	Visiting Research Fellow Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Stockholm
2015	Visiting Research Fellow, Department for Asian Studies, University of Stockholm

Commissioned work/policy advice:

2018-	Commissioned studies and policy advice on China's technical standardization approach for several European stakeholders including the European Commission (DG Grow), the European standardization organizations CEN-CENELEC, the Swedish Standards Institute (SIS), the EU office of the Heinrich-Böll Foundation, the Swedish industry association "Teknikföretagen", and the Swedish industry association "Svensk näringsliv".
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Scholarships

2014-2017	PhD scholarship foundation "Polytechnische Gesellschaft"
2007-2012	Student scholarship Heinrich Böll foundation

Research projects

Ongoing research topics and projects

1. *Smart seaports (2020-)*
2. *China's technical standardization power (2019-)*
3. *The emerging tech rivalry between China and the US – a challenge for Europe (2019-)*
4. *State and future of EU-China relations (2018-)*
5. *The political economy of China foreign policymaking (2014-)*
6. *Hong Kong affairs (2014-)*

Previous research:

1. *PhD project: "State control in times of China's rise. How the vulnerability of the party-state shapes China's approach to state control and selective international integration" (2013-2018)*
2. *China's political economy, the threat of a financial crisis and its implications for CCP rule (2014-2018)*
3. *MA thesis: "In Search of a Good Political Order for the 'Chinese Century'. Comparing the Governments' with Chinese Internet Users' Perspectives" (2012)*
4. *Student research project: "Virtuous by Weakness? The Role of Small Developing States in the 2010 Cancún Climate Negotiations" (with J. Pfister & H. Weismann) (2010-2011)*

5. BA thesis: “... giving back humanity ...” *A long way to sustainable peace. Measuring success and failure of storytelling projects after large scale violent conflict* (2009)
6. Student research project: *Conditions of Success for Religious Framing in Violent Domestic Conflicts. Case studies of Pakistan* (with G. Burger & L. Kaufmann) (2008-2009)

Publications (as of November 2020)

Books:

Under contract/forthcoming (2021): *Understanding China’s Foreign Policy Contradictions*. New York: Oxford University Press.

2017: *Which political order do Chinese internet users and the government want? Implications for the international political order of the “Chinese century”*. Saarbrücken: Éditions Universitaires Européennes.

Edited report

2018 (with Björn Jerdén, Frans-Paul van der Putten, John Seaman, Miguel Otero, and Alice Ekman): *Political values in EU-China relations*. European Think Tank Network on China – annual report. (presented at the European Parliament, the European Council, the European Commission, and the European External Action Service among others; on the list of “recommended readings” by the US State Department for all diplomatic missions of the United States).

Articles, papers and think tanks publications:

Forthcoming (2021): *Die neue technische Standardisierungsmacht China. Eine Herausforderung für Europa*, in: Freimuth, Joachim/Schaedler, Monika (eds.): *Die veränderte Rolle von Normung und Standardisierung in China und Indien – eine industriepolitische Perspektive und ihre Bedeutung für Europa und Deutschland*. Springer. (in German)

Forthcoming (2021, with Oscar Shao): *China’s dwindling soft power in Sweden*, in: Frans-Paul van der Putten et al. (eds.): *ETNC annual report*. The Hague: ETNC.

Forthcoming (2020): *China, Europe and the new power competition over technical standards*. Stockholm: UI Brief.

Forthcoming (2020): *How principled is the EU’s China policy?* Paris: Ifri.

Forthcoming (2020): *Hong Kong, the end of the city of protest?*, in: *Contemporary Chinese Political Economy and Strategic Relations: An International Journal* 6:2.

2020: *Exposing the fragility of EU-China relations*. East Asia Forum. 23 May 2020.

2020: *Who Controls Huawei? Implications for Europe*. UI Paper 5/2020. Stockholm: UI.

2020: *Technical Standardisation, China, and the Future International Order*. Brussels: EU Office of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

2020: *Hong Kong – protesternas stad. Världspolitikens Dagsfrågor*. Stockholm: UI. (in Swedish)

2020 (with Maja Björk): *What to Make of the Huawei Debate? 5G Network Security and Technology Dependency in Europe*. UI Paper 1/2020. Stockholm: UI.

2019 (with Bruno Hellendorff): *The EU’s Reactive Approach to Rising Tensions Between the US and China*, in: Miguel Otero et al. (eds.) *Europe in the Face of US-China Rivalry*. European Think-tank Network on China – annual report. Madrid: ETNC.

2019 (with John Seaman and Daniel Voelsen): 5G and the US-China Tech Rivalry – a test for Europe’s future in the digital age. How can Europe shift from back foot to front foot? SWP Comment. Berlin: SWP.

2019: Hong Kong and the quest for judicial independence, in: Utrikesmagasinet, June 2019. Stockholm: The Swedish Institute of International Affairs.

2019 (with Björn Fägersten): China’s Standard Power and its Geopolitical Implications for Europe. UI Brief 2/2019. March 2019. Stockholm: UI.

2018: Political values in EU-China relations. Towards a “principled” or a “pragmatic” approach?, in: Tim Nicholas Rühlig, Björn Jerdén, Frans-Paul van der Putten, John Seaman, Miguel Otero, and Alice Ekman (eds.): Political values in EU-China relations. European Think Tank Network on China – annual report. Brussels: ETCN, pp. 91-95.

2018 (with Björn Jerdén, Frans-Paul van der Putten, John Seaman, Miguel Otero, and Alice Ekman): Introduction: The role of political values in Europe-China relations in: Tim Nicholas Rühlig, Björn Jerdén, Frans-Paul van der Putten, John Seaman, Miguel Otero, and Alice Ekman (eds.): The role of political values in EU-China relations. European Think Tank Network on China – annual report. Brussels: ETCN, pp.9-22.

2018: The EU’s New China Resolution: Principled but not strategic, in: The Diplomat. 13 September 2018.

2018: How China Approaches International Law: Implications for Europe. May. Brussels: European Institute for Asian Studies.

2018: China’s international relations in the new era of Xi Jinping. Implications for Europe. EU-Asia at a Glance. March. Brussels: European Institute for Asian Studies.

2018: Is China turning into an aggressive or responsible power under Xi Jinping? Implications for European policy-making. Policy Brief. Stockholm: Institute for Security and Development Policy.

2017: “Expressing my attitude and doing something impossible to make it happen...” Listening to the Voices of Hong Kong’s Umbrella Movement Protesters, in: Contemporary Chinese Political Economy and Strategic Relations: An International Journal 3:2, pp. 747-818

2017: “Honkongs framtid på en skör tråd”, in: Kinarapport 1/2017.

2017: The deceptive promise of Xi Jinping’s control? The 19th Chinese Communist Party Congress and its implications for the “new era”. UI Brief. Stockholm: Swedish Institute of International Relations.

2017: China and the new International Order. Op-ed, 1 October 2017. EU-Asia Centre. Brussels.

2016: “Do You Hear the People Sing” “Lift Your Umbrella”? Understanding Hong Kong’s Pro-democratic Umbrella Movement Through YouTube Music Videos, in: China Perspectives 4/2016, pp. 59-68.

2016: “Do You Hear the People Sing” “Lift Your Umbrella”? Le Mouvement des parapluies vu à travers ses chansons protestataires, in: Perspectives Chinoises 4/2016, pp. 59-68.

2016 (with Johan Lagerkvist): The Mobilization of Memory and Tradition: Hong Kong’s Umbrella Movement and Beijing’s 1989 Tiananmen Movement, in: Contemporary Chinese Political Economy and Strategic Relations: An International Journal 2:2, pp. 735-774.

2016: How Does China Impact the Future International Political Order? Conceptual Reflections of the “China Model” in Light of China’s Fragmented Polity, in: *International Relations and Diplomacy* 4:1, pp. 48-59.

2016: (with Christopher Daase, in German): Sicherheitskultur nach 9/11 [Security Culture after 9/11], in: Masala, Carlo/Fischer, Susanne (eds.): *Innere Sicherheit nach 9/11. Sicherheitsbedrohungen und (immer) neue Sicherheitsmaßnahmen?* [Internal Security after 9/11. Security threats and (always) new security measures?] Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften; pp. 13-33.

2015: Hong Kong’s Umbrella Movement in Search of Self-determination. UI Paper, No. 3, November 2015. Stockholm: Swedish Institute of International Relations.

2010 (with Katharina Grabietz, Fee Müller and Markus Patberg, in German): “Internationale Politische Theorie” [International Political Theory], in: *Zeitschrift für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik* 4/2010.

Blog posts:

Please visit my private blog on this website. Blog posts in German and English appeared also in *Bretterblog*, *TRAF0 blog*, *Carta*, *Menschenhandel heute*, and *Sicherheitspolitik-blog*.

Conference Papers, lectures, panel discussions (as of November 2020):

Upcoming: China’s foreign economic policy and its implications for Europe in general and the role of technical standardization in particular. Presentation at the seminar “Regulation, Standards, Innovation and Trade, *Kommerskollegium*, 24 March 2020 (postponed), Stockholm.

2020: The future of standardisation of construction products. Presentation at the virtual conference “Construction Products – Fit for the Future”, German EU Council Presidency, Ministry of Interior, 20 November 2020, (virtual conference) Berlin.

2020: The geopolitics of technology and communication. Presentation and participation in a panel discussion at the Internet Governance Forum Spain, 22 October 2020, virtual conference, Madrid.

2020: Zukunftsmärkte formen – EU, China, und technische Standardisierung. Presentation (in German) at a webinar of the Industrie- und Handelskammer zu Köln, 8 October 2020, virtual webinar, Köln.

2020: What about Hong Kong? The “City of Protest” after the introduction of the National Security Law. Lecture at the University of Uppsala. 16 September 2020, Uppsala.

2020: What future for the EU-China relations in the post-Covid 19 World? Participation in the panel discussion of *Vocal Europe* (video conference), 23 June 2020, Brussels.

2020: Hong Kong and the Quest for Democracy and Freedom under Chinese Rule. Moderation of webinar with Joshua Wong, Martin Lee and Prof Eliza Lee. The Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 10 June 2020, Stockholm/Hong Kong.

2020: China’s standardization policy. Presentation at the Working Group on Standardization in China of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, video conference, 9 June 2020, Beijing/Shanghai.

2020: China’s politics of standardization. Implications for Europe’s railway industry. Presentation to the Standardization Working Group of UNIFE, video conference, 5 May 2020, Brussels.

2020: Technical standardization, China and the future international order. Presentation of a report on China's growing footprint in technical standardization, Heinrich-Böll Foundation, EU Office, Brussels, 3 March 2020, Brussels.

2020: The EU's Reactive Approach to Rising Tensions Between the US and China. Presentation at the launch of the 2019 ETNC Report. European Policy Centre, 24 February 2020, Brussels.

2020: Hong Kong – City of Protest. Lecture at the University of Uppsala. 20 January 2020, Uppsala.

2019: Behind the headlines: protests in Hong Kong. Lecture at the Museum of East Asian Antiquities, 3 December 2019, Stockholm.

2019: The New Superpower. How will the Rise of China Change the World? Panel discussion at the "Battle of ideas" festival, 30 November 2019, Stockholm.

2019: EU-China Relations in light of the BRI. Presentation at the German-Nordic-Baltic Forum, Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 22 November 2019, Tallinn.

2019: Recent Trends in China's Public Diplomacy. Case Studies from Europe, Asia, Afrika and Latin America. Presentation at the Roundtable on "Engaging with China: Challenges and the Way Forward in Higher Education, Human Rights and Public Diplomacy", Raoul Wallenberg Institute, 6 November 2019, Stockholm.

2019: The European Standardization System. CEN-CENELC Workshop at the General Meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission, 23 October 2019, Shanghai.

2019: Europe's approach to technical standardization and China's rise. Presentation at a panel discussion organized by the Green Grouping in the European Parliament and DIN, 9 October 2019, Brussels.

2019: China's Impact on Democratic Values. Presentation at the ChinaBRIDGE Europe Roundtable. Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), 12 September 2019, Warszawa.

2019: In search for a European Approach to the BRI – the Role of Scandinavia. Presentation at the Seminar "The Scandinavian direction in transcontinental connectivity: the role of Latvia" by the New Silk Road Programme of the Latvian Institute of International Affairs, 20 June 2019, Riga.

2019: China's geopolitics of technical standardization – a challenge for Europe? Presentation at the High-level meeting on technical standardization, organized by the Romanian Presidency of the European Council and the Romanian institute of technical standardization (ASRO), 7 June 2019, Bucharest.

2019: 5G, Europe and the tech rivalry between the US and China, Policy Lunch at the German Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU, 6 June 2019, Brussels.

2019: State and future of Europe-China Relations. Electoral Recess Training of the European Parliamentary Research Service 2019. Workshop on EU-China Relations. 21 May 2019, European Parliament, Brussels.

2019 (with Daniel Voelsen): 5G, Europe and the tech rivalry between the US and China, SWP Expert Exchange, 16 May 2019, Brussels.

2019: China's Belt and Road Initiative: Towards a New International Order? UI Seminar, 9 May 2019, Stockholm.

2019: The geopolitics of standards – flow control. Presentation at Ericsson, 7 May 2019, Stockholm.

2019 (with Maja Björk): China's rise in 5G standardization – a (security) challenge for Europe? European workshop on technical standardization at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 26 April 2019, Stockholm.

2019: The geo-politics of technical standardization. European workshop on technical standardization at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 26 April 2019, Stockholm.

2019 (with Björn Fägersten): China's Standard Power. Swedish Roundtable on technical standardization at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 18 February 2019, Stockholm.

2019: Neither norm-breaker nor norm-maker: China's successes in shaping international legal norms. ISA Annual Convention, 29 March 2019, Toronto/Canada.

2019: China, the mysterious country – notes on the domestic-foreign nexus of Chinese policy-making. Presentation at "Folk och Försvar", 5 March 2019, Stockholm.

2019: How is China's Rise Changing the Liberal International Order? Lecture at the University of Exeter. 6 February 2019, Exeter.

2019: Europe-China Relations. The Role of Political Values. UI Seminar. 5 February 2019, Stockholm.

2019: Political values in Europe-China relations. Presentation at the European Parliament, 30 January 2019, Brussels.

2019: The role of political values in the policies of the European Union and its member states towards China. Presentation for COASI representatives of the European Council at the Royal "Egmont" Institute, 29 January 2019, Brussels.

2018: European foreign policy and the role of political values in China. Presentation at the European External Action Service (EEAS), 7 December 2018, Brussels.

2018: Assessing of EU projects promoting political value in China. Presentation with the European Commission (DG DEVCO), 6 December 2018, Brussels.

2018: Political values in Europe-China Relations. Presentation of the ETNC Report 2018 at the Royal "Egmont" Institute, 6 December 2018, Brussels.

2018: What is ahead of China's financial system? Implications for Europe. Panel discussion at the European Institute for Asian Studies, 27 March 2018, Brussels.

2018: China's assertiveness in the South China Sea. Discussant to a book presentation by Dr Richard Turcsanyi at the European Institute for Asian Studies, 1 March 2018, Brussels.

2016: Legitimate governance and state sovereignty in times of globalization. Europe and China in search of a "new deal". Lecture at the China Foreign Affairs University, Peking.

2016: How Does China Deal with the Quest of Self-determination in Greater China? The case of Hong Kong. Presented at the International Studies Association Asia-Pacific conference, 25-27 June 2016, City University of Hong Kong.

2016: How does China impact the future international political order? Conceptual reflections of the "China model" in light of China's fragmented polity. Presented at the International Studies Association Asia-Pacific conference, 25-27 June 2016, City University of Hong Kong.

2015/2016: How do Chinese view global governance? Chinese perspectives on the legitimacy deficit of global governance. Presented at the SWEPSA-conference, 14-16 October 2015, Stockholm as well as at the European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS-Workshops) of the European International Studies Association, 6-8 April 2016, Tübingen.

2015: "Do you hear the people sing" "Lift your umbrella"? Understanding Hong Kong's pro-democratic umbrella movement through YouTube music videos. Presented at the Popular culture and World Politics Conference, 20-21 November 2015, University of Westminster, London. Lectures on similar topics have been held at the institute of media studies at the University of Stockholm, the institute of Political Science at Frankfurt University and the institute of China Studies at the University of Stockholm.

2015: Theorizing? IR in Contemporary China: The Role of Norms, Processes and Practices. Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, 18-21 February 2015, New Orleans.

2015: Norms and Processes: Thinking about IR in Contemporary China. Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, 18-21 February 2015, New Orleans.

2015: China and its WTO commitments: How interest groups shape China's trade policies. Presented at the Global South Caucus conference of the International Studies Association, 8-10 January 2015, Singapore.

2015: Who makes Chinese foreign policy? Bringing the administration, think tanks and society back in. Presented at the Global South Caucus conference of the International Studies Association, 8-10 January 2015, Singapore.

2014: Zwischen Norm und Pragmatismus: Der Staat und die neue chinesische Weltordnung? (in German) [Between norm and pragmatism: The state and the new Chinese world order] Presented at the workshop "Der Staat in globaler Perspektive", 30-31 January 2014, University of Kassel.

2013: From Red Hacker Attack to Ai Weiwei's "Dumbass". Mapping Chinese cyber-activism and online debates and its impact on Chinese foreign relations. Presented at the "Pirating the Popular. Popular Culture and World Politics Conference", 13-14 September 2013, Stockholm.

2011: (with Matthias Dembinski and Britta Weiffen): Rising States in a World of Regions. Regional Policies of the United States and China in Comparison. Presented at the ECPR General Conference, Reykjavik, 25-27 August 2011.

2011: Western Individual or Chinese Collective? Towards a Trans-Individual Understanding of Morality. Presented at the young researchers conference "Liberalism: Causing or Resolving the Crises of Global Governance?", 3-6 February 2011, Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main.

Other

2014-2016: Academic teaching

I have taught BA and MA classes in German and English at Frankfurt University on issues of international relations, state theory, Chinese and Hong Kong affairs.

2002-2008: Internships

Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (editing assistance "Peace Report") (2008), journal "Osteuropa" (editing assistance) (2007), House of Literature Frankfurt (organization of lectures) (2005), integrative kindergarten in Hamburg (2003), German public television "ZDF" (2002).

2008-2017: Extra training

Project management (2017), rhetorical training (2015/16), graphic design (2016), social scientific analysis of social media (2013), mediation & negotiation (2010), arguing against right-wing extremism (2008)

Other qualifications

Administrative organization of conferences and workshops at Frankfurt University including the annual conference of the German association for academic scholars working on international relations and political theory.

Initiation of an international young researchers conference in Frankfurt including funding, concept, call for papers, speakers and key notes, administrative organization etc.

Good with computers including experience with professional layout software.